

Example 3.J: Excess burden *formula under linear model* & *Tax-Revenue-maximizing tax rate*

Demand: $p^d = a - bQ^d$; $a \geq 0$, $b \leq 0$.

Supply : $p^s = c + dQ^s$; $d \geq 0$.

- Solve for quantity and prices equilibrium when the unit tax is imposed. Analyze the result

$$Q_E ; \quad p^d = p^s$$

$$a - bQ = c + dQ$$

$$a - c = bQ + dQ$$

$$Q_E = \frac{a - c}{b + d}$$

$$P_E = c + d \left(\frac{a - c}{b + d} \right)$$

New supply ; $p = c + dQ + t$

$$a - bQ = c + dQ + t$$

$$a - c - t = bQ + dQ$$

$$Q_{tax} = \frac{a - c - t}{b + d}$$

$$P_{tax} = a + d \left(\frac{a - c - t}{b + d} \right)$$

- Derive the excess burden formula for buyers and sellers

Excess burden formula; ($\frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{high}$)

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times \left[\left(a - b \left(\frac{a - c - t}{b + d} \right) \right) \right] - \left(c + d \left(\frac{a - c - t}{b + d} \right) \right) \left(\frac{a - c}{b + d} - \frac{a - c - t}{b + d} \right)$$

- Calculate the tax rate that maximizes the tax revenue of government.

$$\text{Tax revenue} = t_{\text{per unit}} \times Q_{\text{tax}}$$

$$= t \times \frac{a - c - t}{b + d}$$

$$\text{Max. Tax revenue} = a - b\left(\frac{a - c - t}{b + d}\right) - cd\left(\frac{a - c - t}{b + d}\right)$$